

Re: Page B-166, Application Enhancements, Work Protection Code, \$678,100

Q. From the sentence found on page 1, Section 8, Tab 8: “Since 1998, throughout the corporation there have been 3,175 losses and near misses....”, please define “losses” and “near misses” as used in this context.

A. The definition of “loss” and “near miss” as used in this context are:

Loss

A Loss is the observation of an undesirable event, which results in harm to people, damage to equipment, property or the environment.

Near Miss

A Near Miss is the observation of an undesirable event, which, under slightly different circumstances, could have resulted in harm to people, damage to equipment, property or the environment.

A simple example of a “loss” would be an object which was stored unsafely and fell to the floor from a height, thereby slightly injuring a person or damaging equipment. An example of a “near miss” would be the falling of the object even though, as things turned out, nobody was injured and no property was damaged. The difference between the two incidents can be fortuitous; from a safe workplace perspective, no comfort can be taken from the fact that no injuries, serious or otherwise, resulted from the near miss. The same corrective action is required in each case to ensure that a safe workplace results – addressing and correcting the unsafe storage practice or condition.

1 There is no such thing as an acceptable accident. Workplace accidents must
2 be avoided by all means reasonable. The only way to achieve a safe
3 workplace is to carefully and systematically remove all known risks to ensure
4 that unsafe conditions are not present and that unsafe practices are not
5 carried out.